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INTERNET SOURCES FOR NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH

Today as never before, nursing and allied health professionals confront many critical health issues and career trends. With the emergence of various electronic forms in the health sciences, health practitioners are able to exchange information with their colleagues worldwide. This medium empowers health professionals and educators to resolve actively the healthcare issues

and practices they routinely encounter. Patient privacy, assessment of current practices, employment, state of the profession, internship programs, continuing education, curriculum development, shrinking budgets, and health-care reform are a few of the many issues concerning faculty, nurses, and healthcare professionals.

We have attempted to highlight the most current and significant electronic sources in nursing and health sciences. These, as well as many other sources, are added, shifted, and changed frequently so it is impossible to have a complete or definitive list. However, many of these lists are very good about announcing other new sources as they become available. For a comprehensive list of current discussion lists, news-groups and gopher servers, FTP (File Transfer Protocol) to <ftp2.cc.ukans.edu> and look for file Medlst994.txt in the directory/pub/hmatrix. The HMATRIX-L discussion group listed here is another excellent resource for locating health-related information, or you can consult the materials listed in the bibliography.

DISCUSSION LISTS

The discussion groups in this section are arranged alphabetically by name followed by a description, LIST-SERV address and finally the list address. To eliminate redundancy, the details regarding how to subscribe, unsubscribe and send messages to the list were excluded. However, the following procedures are consistent, with some exceptions. For example, to subscribe or unsubscribe from the discussion list called GERINET, use the following procedure:

1. Address your note to the LISTSERV address:

Listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu and leave the name and subject line blank.

- 2) In the message area type:

Subscribe or Unsubscribe GERINET first-name last-name.

- 3) When you subscribe, a welcome note is usually sent to you from the LIST-SERV moderator. This note should be saved since it contains information about the discussion group, appropriate etiquette, and the procedures to unsubscribe.
- 4) When addressing your note to all subscribers of GERINET, send it to the list address:

GERINET@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu

- GERINET (Geriatric Health Care Discussion Group)

This is a mailing list of those interested in geriatric healthcare. It is intended to have multidisciplinary representation (e.g., physicians, nurses, social workers, physical therapists, occupational therapists, psychologists, speech therapists, lawyers, nursing home administrators, etc.) of individuals concerned about the well-being of our elderly.

LISTSERV address:

Listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu or
Listserv@bvm.bitnet

List address:

GERINET@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu or
GERINET@ubvm.bitnet

- GRADNRSE (Questions and Answers About Nursing Practice Problems)

The purpose of this list is to provide a forum for graduate nurses to exchange information about nursing practice. Discussion topics may include: actual practice problems and solutions, nursing law in one's state, nursing ethics situations pertaining to actual practice, nursing policies, and graduate nursing programs available in a particular area.

LISTSERV address:

Listserv@kentvm.kent.edu or
Listserv@kentvm.bitnet

List address:

GRADNRSE@kentvm.kent.edu

- HMATRIX-L (Internet Discussion List of Online Health Resources)

HMATRIX-L is an Internet discussion list concerning online health resources. The focus of the discussion group is on, but not limited to, Internet health resources. The list's intent is to document the location, access and quality of health resources that are of interest to all involved in health and medical activities, e.g., academic, clinical, research, medical librarians, patients, and interested lay persons. An additional purpose is to increase the sharing of resources, that is, information, images, multimedia, tutorials, etc., among the health community. HMATRIX-L is not a place to seek disease diagnoses and is not limited to the nursing profession.

LISTSERV address:

Listserv@ukanak.cc.ukans.edu

List address:

HMATRIX-L@kanaix.cc.ukans.edu

- MIDWIFE

A discussion list for midwives covering such topics as practice, education, licensure and legislation.

LISTSERV address:

Midwife-request@csv.warwick.ac.uk

List address:

Midwife@csv.warwick.ac.uk

- NRSINGED (Nursing Educators) Nursing Educators' discussion list.

LISTSERV address:

Listse@lkyvm.bitnet or

Listserv@ulkyvm.louisville.edu

List address:

Nrsinged@listserv@lkyvm.bitnet

- NRSING-L (Nursing Informatics and Nursing Issues Discussion List)

This list is primarily for the discussion of nursing informatic topics. However, any and all topics related to nursing are addressed. This list is utilized by faculty and practitioners.

LISTSERV address:

Listproc@lists.umass.edu or
Nrsing-L@lists.umass.edu

List address:

Nrsing-L@ukanaix.cc.ukans.edu

- NURSE-UK

An unmoderated discussion list for anyone interested in nursing issues in the U.K.

LISTSERV address:

Nurse-uk-request@csv.warwick.ac.uk

List address:

Nurs e-uk@csv. warwick.ac.uk

- NURSENET (A Global Forum for Nursing Issues)

An unmoderated, global electronic discussion group that addresses all nursing issues. Some examples are: nursing administration, education, practice, and research. This is a very active group with a high volume of mail and includes people from many countries.

LISTSERV address:

Listsev@vm.utcc.utoronto.ca

List address:

NURSENET@vm.utcc.utoronto.ca

- NURSERES (Discussion List for Nurse Researchers)

This is a list for nurse researchers to post questions or problems for comments, find colleagues for collaboration, and to discuss research interests.

LISTSERV address:

Listserv@kentvm.kent.edu or
Listserv@kentvm.bitnet

List address:

Nurseres@kentvm.kent.edu or
Nurseres@kentvm.bitnet

- SCHLRN-L (School Nurse Network)

A discussion group organized for school nurses, school nurse practitioners, school nurse teachers, and school nurse managers. Possible discussion topics include nursing issues, student issues, electronic databases and libraries useful to students, and the National Student Nursing Association. The purpose of the list is to promote networking among school nurse professionals; to assist in the dissemination of research and technological advancements that would enhance the delivery of care to the student population; to provide a forum for the discussion of legislation, policy, and regulatory issues that affect school nurse practice; to support school nurses working in isolated educational settings with resources and information; and to disseminate information about continuing education opportunities, grants, advanced practice, and professional organizations.

LISTSERV address:

Listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu or
Listserv@ubvm.bitnet

List address:

SCHLRN-L@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu

- SNURSE-L (An International Nursing Student List)

SNURSE-L is an unmoderated global electronic conference for nursing students, but it is open to anyone who would like to participate. Possible discussion topics include nursing issues, student issues, electronic databases and libraries useful to students, and the National Student Nursing Association.

LISTSERV address:

Listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu or
Bitnet listserv@ubvm

List address:

SNURSE-L@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu or
SNURSE-L@bvm.bitnet

Newsgroup address:

BIT.LISTSERV.SNURSE-L

NEWSGROUPS (USENET)

Check with your organization's systems analyst to see if you have access to Usenet and in particular, bit.listserv. The use of newsgroups can cut down on e-mail traffic. There are at least two nursing groups that exist at this time. They are: BIT.LISTSERV.SNURSE-L and SCI.MED.NURSING. Some other examples are:

ALT.SUPPORT.ATTN-DEFICIT
ALT.SUPPORT.CANCER
ALT.SUPPORT.MULT-SCLEROSIS
ALT.SUPPORT.ARTHRITIS
BIT.LISTSERV.MEDLIB-L

BIT.LISTSERV.MEDNEWS
MISC.HEALTH.DIABETES
TALK.POLITICS.MEDICINE

GOPHER SERVERS

NIGHTINGALE: A nursing gopher from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville College of Nursing. The menu structure is organized from a nursing point of view. The purpose is to provide the nursing community with easy access to relevant nursing information and to help facilitate communication within the nursing community. To access the NIGHTINGALE gopher server, you need a computer that is on the Internet and access to gopher client software. The server address is nightingale.con.utk.edu.

NURSE (Warwick) is both a gopher and WWW information service. Both come from a server based at the University of Warwick in Great Britain. NURSE is a user-friendly menu system in which one can find papers, bibliographies, other nursing sites, related healthcare sites, and the newsgroup SCI.MED.NURSING (<http://www.csv.warwick.ac.uk:8000/sci.med.nursing.html>). The server address is gopher.csv.warwick.ac.uk 10001.

It is very common for gopher servers, such as those here, to provide references to additional gophers. Here are some server addresses of other healthcare related gophers:

National Institutes of Health gopher.nih.gov

National Library of Medicine gopher.nlm.nih.gov (still developing)

Rural Health Care Gopher ruralnet.mu.wvnet.edu

Stanford Biomedical Gopher genome-gopher.stanford.edu

Toronto Gopher vm.utcc.utoronto.ca

Warwick, UK Gopher gopher.csv.warwick.ac.uk 10001

Welch Medical Library welchlink.welch.jhu.edu

World Health Organization gopher.who.ch

Yale Biomedical Gopher info.med.yale.edu

MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES FOR NURSES

- The Virginia Henderson International Nursing Library is produced by Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI). This electronic library database includes a directory of nurse researchers, conference proceedings, STTI Grant recipients and projects, information resources database, tables of contents for IMAGE: Journal of Nursing Scholarship, and the tables of contents for the STTI Monographs. To access the library, telnet to stti@sun.iupui.edu or 134.68.167.10 and use the password "visitor." This library is also available through the NIGHTINGALE and NURSE (Warwick) gophers. For further

information and subscription rates, call Sigma Theta Tau at 317/634-8171, or send an e-mail message to brsadm@stti.sun.iupui.edu.

- ETNET (Educational Technology Network) at the National Library of Medicine was like a bulletin board for many health related topics. Of special interest for nurses was a conference called NUCARE, which stands for NURsing CARE REsearch. Unfortunately, ETNET was closed as of October 1, 1994, but available for reading until January 1, 1995. Some ETNET functions will be adopted by other resources. At present, some functions are being handled by WWW and gopher servers at the National Library of Medicine:

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/http://wwwetb.nlm.nih.gov/> and gopher.nlm.nih.gov

- AJN (The American Journal of Nursing Company) has a new e-mail address for their editors. They can be contacted at ajn.editorial@ajn.org.
- AJN Network via Internet: With the support of a three-year Special Projects Grant from the Division of Nursing, Department of Health and Human Services, AJN has developed a computer network that will provide a variety of formal and informal continuing education services to nurses in medically underserved communities. Features available from this information server include forums and databases. Examples of forum topics include: AIDS, cultural issues, medical-surgical, medications, mental health, rural nursing, and home health. Samples of databases include: Multi-media Catalog, Nursing Organizations and Drug Reference (to be added soon). This is currently a free service through September 1996. For frequently asked questions (FAQ) about AJN Network, FTP using telnet or IP address.

Telnet to: ajn.org or 198.185.157.24

Login: Guest User

Modem Access: 212/582-8137

Technical assistance: 800/256-4047, Ext. 700

- The American Nurse newspaper published by the American Nurses Association has an Internet address. The editorial offices can be contacted at taneditor@ana.org.
- NLN (The National League for Nurses) now has an Internet address: nlinform@nlm.org. The NLN staff can be contacted about NLN products, services, and upcoming events.
- School Health Learning/Information Center is now available from the Office of School Health Programs at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center School of Nursing via the Denver FreeNet. They can be reached by telnet at freenet.hsc.colorado.edu.

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by Edward L. F. Gonzalez and Helen J. Seaton Arizona State University

Communications to the authors should be addressed to Edward L. F. Gonzalez, Science and Nursing Librarian, West Library, Arizona State University West, 4701 W. Thunderbird Road. Phoenix, AZ 85069-7100; 602/543-8526; Fax 602/543-8540; [Internet--icfg@asuvm.inre.asu.edu](mailto:Internet--icfg@asuvm.inre.asu.edu); and/or Helen J. Seaton, Health Sciences Librarian, Noble Science and Engineering Library, Arizona State University Tempe; Tempe, AZ 85287-1006; 602/965-7609; [Internet--ichjs@asuvm.inre.asu.edu](mailto:Internet--ichjs@asuvm.inre.asu.edu).